

**RESOLUTION NO. 2025-\_\_\_\_\_**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF POLK COUNTY, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING DESIGNATED SWIM AREAS AND VESSEL EXCLUSION ZONES IN CERTAIN PORTIONS OF LAKE WINTERSET, LAKE CLINCH, AND LAKE ARIANA; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, Polk County has approximately five hundred fifty (550) lakes covering over ninety-three thousand (93,000) acres and hundreds of miles of streams and rivers; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of County Commissioners desires to promote the safety and enjoyment of its waterways for all users; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 327.46, Florida Statutes, Polk County has the authority to establish boating-restricted areas, including Designated Swim Areas and Vessel Exclusion Zones; and

**WHEREAS**, designated swim areas and vessel exclusion zones are critical tools to physically separate incompatible waterway uses thereby mitigating risks to vulnerable users; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of County Commissioners of Polk County, Florida, finds it necessary in the public interest to establish Designated Swim Areas and Vessel Exclusion Zones in certain portions of Lake Winterset, Lake Clinch, and Lake Ariana to ensure the safety of swimmers and other recreational users

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF POLK COUNTY, FLORIDA THAT:**

SECTION 1. AUTHORITY. This Resolution is adopted pursuant to Chapter 125, Florida Statutes, Polk County Ordinance 25-\_\_\_\_\_ and other applicable provisions of law (collectively, the "Act").

SECTION 2. FINDINGS. The Board hereby finds, determines, and declares as follows:

- A) The County is authorized under law, including, without limitation, Chapter 327, Florida Statutes, to establish Designated Swim Areas and Vessel Exclusion Zones within its jurisdiction.
- B) The area(s) shown in exhibit "A" consist of areas of Lake Winterset, Lake Clinch, and Lake Ariana where swimming is common and where boats routinely operate while swimmers are present.

- C) The establishment of Designated Swim Areas and Vessel Exclusion Zones in the areas shown in exhibit "A" are necessary to promote public safety and reduce conflicts between vessels and swimmers or other recreational users.

SECTION 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF DESIGNATED SWIM AREAS AND VESSEL EXCLUSION ZONES. Designated Swim Areas and Vessel Exclusion Zones are hereby established in the portions of Lake Winterset, Lake Clinch, and Lake Ariana, as depicted in Exhibit "A" attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

SECTION 4. PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES. Within the Designated Swim Areas and Vessel Exclusion Zones, the operation of all vessels, including but not limited to motorboats, personal watercraft, and airboats, is prohibited, except for law enforcement, emergency response, or other official purposes as authorized by the county.

SECTION 5. NO WARRANTIES OR ASSURANCES. By adoption of this Resolution, the Board provides no warranties or insurances that areas designated as Designated Swim Areas and Vessel Exclusion Zones are safe or that the areas comply with all applicable laws, ordinances, or safety codes.

SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

DULY PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of County Commissioners of Polk County, Florida on May 20, 2025.

ATTEST:

STACY M. BUTTERFIELD  
CLERK TO THE BOARD

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
POLK COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk


By: \_\_\_\_\_  
T. R. Wilson, Chair

(SEAL)

# Exhibit “A”




# Lake Winterset

 Designated Swim Area and Vessel Exclusion Zone





# Lake Winterset


 Designated Swim Area and Vessel Exclusion Zone





# Lake Winterset



 Designated Swim Area and Vessel Exclusion Zone





# Lake Ariana



— Swimming Area





Lake Clinch



W 4th Ct

Fr

Wood Ave

Fir Ave

W 7th St

Swimming Area

Lauterbach St